

The Petrides School Educational Excellence for the 21st Century

715 Ocean Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301
Telephone (718)815 – 0186 Fax (718) 815 – 9638

National Junior Honor Society Guidelines

Membership in the Michael J. Petrides National Junior Honor Society is a great honor bestowed upon a middle school student in grades 6, 7 and 8. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council made up of middle school teachers and members of the school administration. It is based on outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

To be eligible for membership each candidate must complete a NJHS application, and an essay of at least 250 words stating why you are a good candidate for NJHS. Applications can be obtained from Ms. Souffrin in room B217 or attached to your monthly calendar. In addition, candidates must complete the following requirements:

- The candidate must be a middle school student in the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade.
- The candidate must have a cumulative scholastic average of at least 90 percent.
- The candidate must demonstrate **service**, which is defined through “the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive courteous, and enthusiastic spirit”. Some examples of school or community service are:
 - Peer tutoring another student during your lunch time
 - Assisting a teacher during your lunch time
 - Volunteering in an elementary school classroom during your during lunch time
 - Helping the librarian of the school during your lunch time
 - Assistant coaching a youth sports team
 - Volunteering at a local food pantry
 - Spending time with an elderly patient at a nursing home
 - Volunteering at your religious institution
 - Volunteering at an animal shelter
 - Volunteering during after school events, such as the 4th grade Luau, Winter Concert or the Spring musical

It is important to note that students interested in joining NJHS can obtain service hours after school during our program with Ms. Calimano in Room B204 every Wednesday afternoon. They work on specific community and school service projects. **Also note that babysitting for a sibling, dog walking or household chores are not acceptable for community service hours.** Students must submit their community service log of hours on the form provided or on official letterhead from an organization.

- The candidate must demonstrate **leadership**, which is defined by “resourceful, good problem solvers, promoters of school activities, idea – contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life”.
- The candidate must demonstrate good **character**, which is defined by “upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle”.
- The candidate must demonstrate **citizenship**, which is defined as “understands the importance of civic involvement, has a high regard for freedom, justice, and democracy, and demonstrates mature participation and responsibility through involvement with such activities as scouting, community organizations and school clubs. Citizenship is determined by the conduct grades on the report card. An “N” or a “U” will prevent you from becoming a member.
- The candidate must complete 20 hours of community service. The candidate should work closely with B. Souffrin to ensure they are aware of all in school service opportunities.
- The candidate must write a 250 – 500 word essay in which they illustrate how they have demonstrated the qualities of: service, leadership, character, and citizenship.
- The candidate must obtain the signatures of seven teachers who can testify to their good character.

Complete applications are due May 1, 2025. Applications must be delivered to Ms. Souffrin in Room B217 or Ms. Harrigan in Room B218.

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Anthony Tabbitas, Principal.

BettyAnn Souffrin, Assistant Principal

National Junior Honor Society Recommendation Sheet

Use this form to record the appropriate signatures needed for the NJHS application process.

ELA Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

Mathematics Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

Science Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

Social Studies Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

Foreign Language Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

Elective Teacher Recommendation		
I testify that the above named student is of good character and would be an appropriate choice for the National Junior Honor Society.		
Please circle one	I do Recommend	I do not recommend
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Signature		Date

I certify that my application is complete and honest _____

The application deadline MAY 1, 2025. An application does not guarantee admittance into the NJHS. The Petrides Faculty Council will review records. Late applications will not be considered.

